

# SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

## WRITTEN ANSWER

19 February 2015

Index Heading: Transport Scotland

**Alison Johnstone (Lothian) (Scottish Green Party):** To ask the Scottish Government how much has been set aside in the 2015-16 budget for (a) active travel, (b) cycling, (c) walking, (d) cycling infrastructure and (e) Smarter Choices Smarter Places measures, also broken down by (i) capital and (ii) revenue budgets.

(S4W-24376)

**Mr Derek Mackay MSP:**

Detailed decisions on funding for active travel in 2015-16 have yet to be taken. The draft budget for 2015-16 included £25 million in the Support for Sustainable and Active Travel budget line. In addition, in his speech to Parliament on 4<sup>th</sup> February the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and Economy announced that this would be increased by an additional £3.9 million to support investment in cycling and walking infrastructure, taking the total to £28.9 million.

Of this £10 million is revenue funding, of which £5 million will be for an extension to the Smarter Choices, Smarter Places programme, and £5 million is in the form of financial transactions.

In addition, Scottish Ministers will allocate £8 million to local authorities for Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets projects in 2015-16 as part of the local government settlement.

Decisions on the deployment of the £20.25 million capital funding available through the Future Transport Fund have yet to be taken. This will include an allocation for cycling and walking infrastructure projects.

Furthermore, the Scottish Government does not distinguish between investment in (b) cycling and (c) walking as investment in active travel will usually benefit both types of user.

Discussions with stakeholders and delivery partners about the allocation of budgets are currently on-going and announcements will be made in due course.

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT